

C. Remarks

The claims are 1-16 and 18-20, with claim 1 being independent. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner in the Office Action. Claims 13 and 14 have been amended to reduce their multiple dependencies in order for the language of these claims to be more consistent with the language of the claims from which they depended. New claims 18-20 have been added as a result of the reduction in multiple dependencies of claims 13 and 14. Clear support for the new claims may be found in originally filed claims 13-15. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the non-allowed claims is expressly requested.

Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the indication that all claims are free from prior art, with claims 2-11, 15 and 16 being allowable.

Claims 1 and 12 are objected to due to minor informalities. In response, Applicants have amended these claims to correct the noted informalities as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for being allegedly indefinite. In particular, the Examiner alleged that there is insufficient antecedent basis in these claims for medium (d), which is not recited in claims 9 and 11, from which claims 13 and 14 alternatively depend.

In response, claims 13 and 14 have been amended so that they no longer depend from claim 9 or 11. Accordingly, the above rejection should be withdrawn.

Since it is believed that all issues in this case have been resolved, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100 or by facsimile at (212) 218-2200. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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